

Boston, Dec. 4. 1854. -

Dear Miss Estlin -

On Friday last the Bristol Box of

Contributions to the Antislavery Bazaar was
opened, Miss Annie Weston, Miss Deborah W., and
some other being present. Every thing appeared in
the very best order. Several other boxes were

opened also, and out of them a selection of
articles was made, filling a box about one-
third of the size of the Bristol box, to go to

the Philadelphia Fair, which is to commence
on the 1st of the 6th. The box was sent

off on Saturday, and we are assured will
probably reach Phila. Tuesday morning

(tomorrow). The Philadelphia ladies

requested this contribution, as much as they

had not ^{received} the amount of European contribution,
this year which they had last year, and the

Boston ladies were very glad to comply with

the request. - If the Phila. Fair had been

2 or 3 weeks later, - Miss Weston said, - a much

larger ~~and~~ ^{therefore} more valuable contribution might

have been sent; as much as then all the

Boston boxes would not come to hand, whereas,

now but a few have arrived. - And I had

thought it would be a pleasant thing to you Bristol

contributors, that a portion of your gifts should
go to Philadelphia, with whose Abolitionists

you have formed ^{intimate} so pleasant a connexion,
by means of Miss Pugh & Mr. McHirn. —

The box was not carefully and fully examined
— that work remains to be done — the design
in opening it thus early being solely to send
a selection to Phil'a; — but I was glad to
see a parcel of your father's tract, and in so
neat & improved an edition as this, which the
Leeds Association has printed. I thank him
most sincerely for the copy which he sent to
me, and I have had much pleasure in
distributing those which he directed to Mrs. Garrow,
Phillips, & others, & to Miss Weston. Miss W.
was quite charmed with her copy, and to see
your father's hand-writing, as she said, as
clear, distinct, & firm (apparently) as ever.
We have had very favourable accounts of his
health, & that he was in no wise a sufferer
by your visit to Dublin. — I have had a
letter from Miss Eliza Wigham of Edinburgh,
— the first one I have ever had from her, of
any Edinburgh Abolitionist — party on
business; — she speaks of having met you at Dublin
and gives makes pleasant mention of her knowledge
of you & your father. It must ~~have~~ been very
gratifying for these representatives of England, Scotland,
and Ireland, to meet thus together. I presume
the interests of the Anti-slavery Cause were not
forgotten. — A short note from Mr. Webb also
speaks of your visit there, as a matter of very
great satisfaction and enjoyment to himself & others.

In this hurried note which I am writing
you'll notice a very poor pen, & unskillful hand
to say, ~~say~~, hand upon another), - a note which,
if it goes by to-day's Steamer (for I am soon
writing on the morning of Dec. 7th), must be a
short one; I can hardly touch upon our Advertiser
affairs. Not that there is anything very new
or striking to communicate, perhaps; but the
Devotion of Slavery, who now stalks boldly &
shamelessly up & down the land, seeking
whom it may devour & what good thing is left
for it to crush out", is always planning
doing some infernal treachery, which needs
a surprise to nobody, but is nevertheless
startling to those who have not learned and
understood its true character as well as the
Abolitionists have done. His last move, in
our section of the country, is to indict Theodore
Parker, W. Higginson, & several others for
resisting violently, &c. &c. the United States Marshal
at the time of the Kidnapping of Anthony Burns
in May last. Very few here believed that a Grand
Jury could be found who would find bills of indictment
for this cause. But a thoroughly unprincipled U. S.
District Attorney, in the hand of such God-forsaken
wretches as President Prentiss and his Attorney
General Caleb Cushing (the workman that hies)
has contrived to get a Grand Jury together, a

majority of whom has agreed to find them guilty of misconduct. The men have all given bail to appear & take their trial before the U.S. Circuit Court in March next. It remains to be seen if a jury of 12 men can be found to convict them. I hold it morally impossible to convict Theodore Parker, but a packed jury, with B. F. Hallett to manage them (if we are doomed to see such a degrading sight in Boston) will not stick at trifles.

Wendell Phillips is said to be among the number indicted, but he is absent at a long lecturing tour, and the warrant is not yet served. I have no doubt that it will be, on his return. — It gloriously free country — is it not? — that indulges men for teaching in Faneuil Hall, the doctrine of liberty, and for denouncing slaveholding Law as that for the recovery of Fugitive Slave. But the villains are doomed to defeat and disgrace. Even a temporary success in their malicious schemes will only re-act upon the own heads. Nothing could so effectually render the names of Parker, Higginson, Phillips, famous & honorable as a public penalty for denouncing the Fugitive Slave Law. — We of course shall do every thing in our power to render these tools of Slavery as hot as they deserve to be — I speak of Judges Curtis & Story — Hallett the Attorney — & Freeman (!) the U.S. District Marshal.

MS. B. 1. 6 v. 15 p. 75

None can be less surprised than the Abolitionists
at the passage of the Nebraska Slavery Bill. We
have seen & declared it from the first, though
of course hopeful that we might, for once, prove
mistaken. But we should be indeed very dull
beamers, if, after 20 years' schooling we have had
in the craft, forecast, & all but omnipotence of the
Slave Power had not taught us that it never fails
of its object - never fails to gain what it covets -
never fails to carry any point it desires.

The North will be aroused, I am disposed to think,
to some unusual demonstration. But just what it
will be, I will not undertake to predict, - nor whether
it will possess any living power.

To-day I have your brief note, informing of Pillsbury's
departure from Bristol with Mr. Hovey; - with news of
his in London. I learn that Mr. Phillips has a ~~recent~~
~~late~~ letter from Paris, speaking of P.'s safe arrival there,
but I heard no further particulars of his journey
thither or his health. It was said that Mr. Hovey
would return to America in June. 'T will be a great
disappointment to Pillsbury to lose his society & friendly
counsel so soon.

I shall say but very little - even to you, dear
friend Mary - of the matter between Mr. Pillsbury
and myself (for he makes it very much of a personal
~~aff~~ matter, in his letter to Mr. Garrison, both as relates
to himself & myself) - and the least said in such a
case, - where personal feelings have been so stirred - is soonest
mended.

But if the Exec. Committee, or I, were disposed to
take offence, (which of course are not) surely we might deem ourselves very
hardly used by our excellent old fellow-soldier, when
he virtually charges us with suspecting him of becoming
new-organised, and ^{with} ranking him somewhere with (or
below) Pennington, Garnett, & other malignant foes of the American
Anti-Slavery Society who have visited England. A part
of this is doubtless to be attributed to the effects of his
severe sickness; but not all. A good share is, I think
ascrivable to an exceedingly sensitive, - a morbidly-
sensitive nature; - not only that excellent quickness
of moral feeling & personal honour, "which feels a
stain like a wound", - but ^a too great readiness to
imagine a want of moral confidence, where nothing more
than difference of opinion had been expressed or implied.
I am certain that my letter could have expressed
nothing more than or difference of opinion, and if I
ascribed to P.P. any opinion, or expression, about the
Standard that he did not entertain, ^{on us,} why that
was not to be laid to my charge, but to that of our
good friend ~~also~~ Webb, who very distinctly stated what
he understood P.P. to say, not only in one but in
repeated conversations, & who has re-affirmed, in
a second note to me, ~~as~~ his original understand-
- My haste to reply to R.D. W.'s first note (not willing to
lose a single steamer) - ^{to Garrison, Quincy, & Phillips} my showing Mr. W.'s letter to me
& my reply to it (which I deemed ^{to be} my duty, that I
might not mis-represent those for whom I undertook
to speak), are points which seem to aggravate, in P.P.'s
mind, the other qualities of my letter. My only excuse
for not procrastinating my reply is, that we every one of u

I have also rec'd. (from the Edinburgh box) the copies of Mr. James's Memoirs, designed for Messrs. Frothingham & Norman. These I will forward. — I am sending this week to R. D. Webb, a parcel of the Pamphlet, containing Proceedings of the Anniversary Meeting of the Boston Pro-slavery Mob of 1835. I have addressed a number to Bristol friends, which I hope will duly reach you.

If you are writing to P. Pillsbury, please assure him of my sincere thanks for his various very interesting letters. I am expecting, & determined to have, a little season to write to him soon, & pay off a small part of my debt.

Mr. Garrison has gone to Phil^a, to attend the Annual Meeting there, & give some Lectures besides. Mr. Hovey accompanied him. It is longer than usual since I heard any particulars from Phil^a-friends. They have been much engrossed in P. & F. Williamson's case, — which did not turn out quite as well as might be desired, mainly owing I suppose to the eagerness of Williamson's lawyers to have him released.

In a recent Note you kindly promised to send me a parcel of the little documents & MSS. which your Father prepared & circulated. I should like them very much indeed. I have now a large number of them — yet far from complete. — I am wanting especially a "Clinical Teachings", and one or more of his Annual Papers on the Frogmore St. Dispensary. These I had, but I have looked in vain to find them. Probably I gave them away. He sent me several of the Dispensary papers. I recollect.

Mrs. Hollen is living at Brookline, but her best P. O. address would be Boston — either to care of C. Hollen Esq. architect, State St. or to No. 21 Cornhill.

Are you at home again? And what is the state of your health? There are ^{the latter particularly} questions I should like a favourable answer to. Mr. Webb told me you had 300 letters to answer, which came to you after your Father's death. Each writer, I suppose, did not think much of the burden he was adding; and I may

into a similar mistake now. Only, don't you take time from the afternoon, nor from any important matter in order to answer my letters. I hope you will have quiet, leisure, strength to prepare that work. But can forewarn you that you have (I presume) no idea whatever of the time and labour it will require. To prepare my brief & imperfect Notice has taken four times the time that I anticipated. Your father's journal of 50 years - his numerous correspondence, not on one topic but many, - and his other MSS. papers must require years of time for the full digesting and condensing. But then you are more systematic than I, I doubt not, and will work with greater facility. I hope you may have a good deal of aid in copying, arranging, &c.

Did you ever receive Mr. Garrison's communication, containing the Resolutions of the Executive Committee of American Anti-Slavery Society, on your father's decease? Mrs. Chapman tells me she remembers your speaking of them. I do not think you have mentioned them in your notes to me.

I hope to write you more at length soon. Now the mailing-time is arrived, and I must stop. - We feel badly at ^{not} having the personal presence of Anna and Deborah Weston at the Bazaar this year; but they cannot. Their father's death was a terrible shock to them, - to Anna especially. Death seems, to her, a fearful visitation. It is something new and surprising. - They are doing all the care, at Weymouth, in the way of help & preparation. It is most fortunate for us that Mrs. Chapman is here. She takes hold of the work as easily & naturally as if she had been away a month, and with all the spirit of a fresh hand. She is looking very well indeed. Farewell. Will you kindly post the accompanying for R.D. Webb?

Yours truly, Sand May 2.